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CALGARY • WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009 metronews.ca

Celebrity Buzz

Burton's Alice going 3-D
pg 14

Alderman sheds light on city's power failings

ENERGY Calgary's poor Earth Hour showing has an alderman musing about turning out the lights.

The city's collective efforts resulted in only a one per cent drop in power consumption on Saturday night — a dim showing according to Ald. Brian Pincott — and the disappointment caused a light bulb to go off in his head.

He said Toronto managed to cut its power by 15 per cent and if Calgary can't match that, he wants to see city-owned Enmax force people to be more energy conscious.

"I'll be putting forward a motion to have Enmax turn the power off once a month for one hour until we catch up," he said. "We know Calgarians want to do their part for the environment, they just need a little help."

Pincott is also planning to ban all electricity use in the city, one day a year on April 1.

SHAWN LOGAN/
FOR METRO CALGARY



Provence's Aix:
C'est très chic

Daffodil



Mike Labinjo of the Calgary Stampeders takes some time to smell the daffodils and help raise a mountain of hope as the Canadian Cancer Society brings the annual Daffodil Days purchase to Bow Valley Square. Story, pg 3

Days

Flash in sky a meteor: Expert

KRISTA SYLVESTER
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FIREBALL At first glance he thought it was a UFO. But whatever it was, Vernon Chiefmoon has never seen anything like it.

Chiefmoon was driving to work yesterday at 6:30 a.m. on Crowchild Trail and out of the corner of his eye he caught a white flash streaking through the sky.

"It looked like it was heading over downtown. I wanted to take a picture but suddenly it turned into a green fireball and exploded into pieces and disappeared," he told Metro.

"It gave me an eerie feeling. I thought I was the only one who seen it but the traffic on Crowchild sort of came to a halt and it seemed everyone was watching," he added.

But people across Alberta and Saskatchewan also witnessed what University of Calgary geologist Dr. Alan Hildebrand said was likely a meteor between 10 and 100 kilograms that left behind a dust cloud.

"It's typical of a meteor, which actually happens about once a week in Canada," Hildebrand said of the occurrence, adding this meteor was much smaller than one seen in the Prairies last November.

Leadfoots ticketed today

SHAWN LOGAN
for Metro Calgary

Smile, you're on speed-on-green camera.

Cops today will begin mailing tickets to lead-footed drivers who burn rubber through select intersections as the controversial speed-on-green camera initiative makes its official debut.

Traffic unit Staff Sgt. Brett Marklund said the focus of the program, which piggybacks on existing red-light cameras, is to monitor troublesome intersections and reduce speed and collisions.

"The whole purpose of this program is to enhance traffic safety and get people to make safe decisions to prevent collisions," he said. "In my perfect world we're out of work."

Throughout March, police issued warnings to speeders who motored through a pair of monitored intersections, dishing out 700 letters that starting today will now be a traffic ticket.

While there are 44 red-light cameras throughout the city that could be used to snap pictures of speeding, Marklund said the program will launch with only three

Offenders

- The average speed for those who received warnings in March was 24-kilometres over the posted speed limit, which would have landed a fine of about \$130.

to five and ideally be up to 10 by the end of the year.

"If we can take graduated steps that convince people to change their driving habits so that the roads are safer, that's our preference," he said.

Controversy has swirled around the use of the cam-

eras with Alberta Transport Minister Luke Ouellette balking at the notion of charging some offenders with reckless driving.

Marklund said police would have that tool available but it would only be used in rare circumstances where the pictures could be used as evidence.

He noted in most cases, even if a motorist speeds through a red light, only one ticket will be issued.

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Methadone clinic given three months to find new home

The city's development appeal board yesterday gave Second Chance Recovery, one of the city's two methadone clinics, three more months to find a replacement for its current Highfield Park location. The private clinic has about 500 clients who are recovering drug addicts. **METRO CALGARY**

3

Local



"People seem to be making a wildfire out of a match."

— Matt Koczur, vice-president of external affairs, Mount Royal College Students' Association. The association is trying to quell a flag flap as it considers what to do with a Canadian ensign. Koczur said the giant flag that hung in Wyckham House was taken down for renovations and a questionnaire will now go out to students asking where it should be placed. **METRO CALGARY**



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9 Tonight



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Good Samaritan would do it again

ASSAULT A Good Samaritan who was severely beaten when he helped a subway employee said he doesn't regret trying to help.

Philly Roch, a local bar owner, tried to intervene when he saw two men acting aggressively towards a staff member on March 20. Roch doesn't remember the attack and now has metal plates behind his right eye socket, and doctors had to repair his cheekbone, jaw and teeth.

Police are still looking for two suspects.

METRO CALGARY

Crash lands one in hospital

Cops say charges pending in collision involving stolen vehicle

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Police believe alcohol was a factor yesterday morning when an alleged car thief fled from police at high speeds and ran a red light, ramming another vehicle, police said.

Officers in an unmarked vehicle noticed an older Chrysler Dynasty weaving in and out of traffic along Memorial Drive near the zoo around 10:30 a.m., and when they ran the plate they realized it was stolen, according to police.

That's when police put on their flashing lights and the vehicle sped off, but sticking with their no-chase policy the police turned off their lights and sirens, police spokesperson Kevin Brookwell said.

"Then police then came upon a collision (at Deerfoot Trail and Memorial Drive) and witnessed the suspect fleeing on foot and the offi-



Calgary police collect evidence from the stolen car driven by a man who they said struck another vehicle on Memorial Drive and Deerfoot Trail yesterday morning.

cer deployed his Taser (unsuccessfully)," Brookwell said, adding the prongs couldn't penetrate the suspect's jacket. "The man was aggressive and combative and he very obviously did not want to be arrested."

Traffic was snarled for

over an hour while investigators and crews cleaned up the wreck.

Police on scene were seen emptying a can of beer, which was then placed into an evidence bag.

Firefighters used the Jaws of Life to free the uncon-

scious 39-year-old driver in the vehicle stuck by the stolen vehicle, and she was transported to hospital with serious injuries but in stable condition, according to EMS spokesperson Stuart Brideaux.

Charges are pending.

Celebs help Daffodil Days

SunnySide

CANCER RESEARCH Spring was out in full bloom yesterday at the Canadian Cancer Society's Daffodil Days launch.

Celebrity volunteers set up shop at Bow Valley Square downtown, selling bunches of daffodils and vases in support of all types of cancer, CCS spokesperson Julene Warren said.

"Everybody loves them. It's been going really well so far and people really love buying their flowers from the celebrities," she said.

Calgary Stampeder Mike Labinto had no problem posing with the pretty yellow flowers because he said it's all for a good cause. "I think any time you can help out ... it's a good thing and leaves a good feeling in your heart," he said.

The society hopes to raise more than last year's Alberta total of \$470,000.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/METRO CALGARY

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What's online today.

Blogs Style columnist Kenya Hunt previews Gwyneth Paltrow's new line and Hollywood Rants sticks up for Slumdog's Danny Boyle





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Canada

CSIS admits to using torture-obtained info

In stunning testimony that flatly contradicts stated Conservative government policy, a senior CSIS official admitted the spy agency still uses information that may have been obtained by torture in national security investigations "if lives are at stake."

Geoffrey O'Brian, a lawyer and CSIS adviser on operations and legislation, told the Commons public safety committee there is no absolute ban on using intelligence that may have been obtained from countries with sketchy human rights records on torture.

"Do we use information that comes from torture? The answer is we only do so if lives are at stake," O'Brian

Admission

• The admission came as officials from CSIS, the RCMP and the Canada Border Services Agency testified that they have responded to recommendations and findings by the two judge-led inquiries into the Middle East torture ordeals of Maher Arar, Ahmad El-Maati, Abdullah Almalki and Muayyed Nureddin.

said.

The explosive admission appeared to fly in the face of clear recommendations from Justice Dennis O'Connor in the Maher Arar inquiry against receiving or distributing information when there is "a credible

risk" it stemmed from torture.

It also contradicted assertions by the Conservative government, which has long argued the practices that led to the detention and torture of four Canadian citizens — that were condemned in two public inquiries — happened under the previous Liberal government. The Conservative government insists policies under its watch have changed.

The office of Peter Van Loan, minister of public safety, moved to clarify the Conservative government's policy late in the day by e-mail: "The Government of Canada does not condone torture. Period."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Life story irrelevant, lawyers say

TASER INQUIRY Probes into Robert Dziekanski's life before arriving at Vancouver International Airport, where he had his fateful encounter with RCMP officers, are irrelevant, said lawyers for the family and the Polish government yesterday.

For a second day, a public inquiry into the Dziekanski death heard video-link testimony from friends of Dziekanski who knew him in Gliwice, Poland.

Magda Czelwinska said her friend was excited about coming to Canada and had long prepared for the journey to join his mother by collecting books and magazines about the country.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Halifax School's out



Darren Czech and his daughter Reghan, 5, build a snowman in front of their house yesterday. A spring snowfall caused schools in Halifax and the surrounding region to be closed yet again. Students have now missed 7 1/2 days of school due to weather.

3 shot at assisted-living centre

CRIME RCMP say no one has died as a result of an incident yesterday afternoon in which three people were shot near an assisted-living facility in Gibsons, B.C., CBC News Online reports.

"I can confirm at the time of this advisory, 7:20 p.m. (local time), there are no fatalities in what is confirmed an officer-involved shoot-

ing," Cpl. Peter Thiessen said in a statement.

Reports indicate that one woman shot two of the facility's staff members with a rifle. Police were called to the scene, and it has been reported that officers shot the woman wielding the weapon. She has been airlifted to Vancouver General Hospital. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

News in brief

WILDERNESS A new management plan for the Great Bear Rainforest on Canada's Pacific Coast is an example of how to balance ecological and economic needs, environmentalists and timber industry officials said yesterday. The plan comes nearly three years after the groups and aboriginal leaders called a truce in their long-running battle. **REUTERS**

Huge marijuana haul found in home of elderly Nigerian

Nigeria's anti-narcotics agency confiscated 6.5 tons of marijuana yesterday from the home of a man who claimed to be 114 years old. **REUTERS**

5

World

Taliban behind raid

Pakistani leader warns of attack in U.S.

Pakistani Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud said yesterday his group had carried out an assault on a police academy in the city of Lahore in retaliation for U.S. drone attacks on militants in Pakistan.

He also suggested a \$5-million US bounty put on his head by the United States could be avenged by an attack in Washington.

"You can't imagine how we could avenge this threat inside Washington, inside the White House," said Mehsud, an al-Qaida-linked leader based in the Pashtun tribal region on the Afghan border.

Eight cadets were killed and scores wounded in the

"You can't imagine how we could avenge this threat inside Washington."

Baitullah Mehsud, Pakistani Taliban chief

brazen assault that came less than a month after a dozen gunmen attacked Sri Lanka's cricket team in the city, killing six police guards and a bus driver.

Four militants were killed and three were arrested during an eight-hour gunbattle with security forces in the police academy on Monday.

Mehsud leads the Movement of Taliban Pakistan, a loose umbrella group of factions that has carried out attacks across the country.

Authorities have accused him of being behind a string of attacks in Pakistan, including the assassination of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto in December 2007.

Frustrated over Pakistan's inability to stem growing cross-border attacks by militants into Afghanistan, the United States has carried out a series of missile attacks by pilotless drones on militant targets in northwestern Pakistan. **REUTERS**

300 African migrants feared dead

DROWNINGS Some 300 Africans, including women and children, are feared to have drowned after their boats capsized off Libya, part of a new upsurge of illegal migration to Europe, officials said yesterday.

At least 23 bodies were recovered by Libyan coastguards near the wreckage of three rickety boats that sailed from near Tripoli, Libya's Oea daily said, quoting security officials. A similar number were rescued, officials said.

One of the boats was carrying 365 people, though it was only supposed to hold 75, Libyan officials said. It was one of four migrant ships that sailed from Libya between Saturday and Sunday, apparently heading for Italy. **REUTERS**

News in brief

INVESTIGATION Pope Benedict XVI has ordered an investigation of an influential Roman Catholic priestly order whose founder was discovered to be a sexual molester.

MIX-UP German police are struggling to explain why they chased a phantom serial killer for 16 years after confusion over an innocent woman's DNA samples. **REUTERS**

Cambodia Torturer says sorry



A resident prays in front of skulls at a Killing Fields memorial in Cambodia. Former Khmer Rouge torturer Kaing Guek Eav apologized yesterday for the 14,000 people who died "brutally" at S-21 prison, the first senior Khmer Rouge cadre to accept blame for atrocities committed by the regime 30 years ago.

Computer worm set to wreak April Fool's havoc

INFECTION A computer worm that has lain dormant in millions of infected computers worldwide is expected to wake up on April Fool's Day, and ... well, technicians aren't sure what exactly it'll do, but they suspect it'll be harmful.

Since January, the Conficker worm — the largest computer worm to date — has created an infrastructure that its creators can use to remotely install software on infected machines, according to Symantec.com.

The computer-security software company said the

Taking action

• Free repair and detection tools can be found at confickernetworkinggroup.org.

worm would likely be used to create a botnet that will be rented out to criminals who want to send spam, steal IDs, and direct users to online scams and phishing sites.

With the worm targeting Windows XP and Vista, Microsoft is offering a \$250,000 US reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of its creators. **METRO CANADA**

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Iran.....3.9 ¢	Saudi Arabia.....3.9 ¢
Iraq.....4.9 ¢	Syria.....18.9 ¢
Israel.....2.9 ¢	U.A.E.....19.9 ¢

Latin America

CUBA 85 c/min

Haiti.....16.9 ¢	Bolivia.....6.9 ¢
Honduras.....15.9 ¢	Chile.....2.9 ¢
Panama.....3.9 ¢	Colombia.....3.9 ¢
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Comment & Views

Comment

Heroes of free speech

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

When the right wing gets together, there's usually enough room left in the phone booth for a marching band, but last night's Fraser Institute gathering here in Vancouver was sold out.

And the speaker, neo-con Albertan Ezra Levant, is the toast of the Left Coast. The former Western Standard publisher and Reform MP is on a Vancouver tour de triomphe while basking in the glow of rave reviews for his latest book, *Shakedown*, including one from Rex Murphy, the man who put the polysyllables in pundit.

What's going on here? Why is Ezra Levant the flavour of the month? Dare I say because he deserves to be?

Levant and his fellow traveller, Mark Steyn, were

both targeted by various of the 13 Canadian human rights commissions for their work on Islam: Levant for publishing the notorious Danish Muhammad cartoons when he knew it was dangerous; and Steyn for musing in MacLean's that Islam is winning the war against civilization by breeding more ambitiously.

Yes, the neo-con is always wondering why the rest of us fuzzy thinkers can't see that the glass is half empty and draining fast.

But whatever I think, I support the right's right to say what it thinks, unlike the government thought police known as the human rights commission. Under

the guise of protecting the rights of minorities, the HRCs have trampled everyone else's.

Steyn and Levant, unlike so many cowed into silence, stood up against what Levant calls "Alice in Wonderland commissions where bizarre new human rights are made up on the spot and where regular legal procedures don't apply." Shakedown is an account of his persecution at the hands of the Alberta commission, as well as a tour through the highlights of a Canadian quasi-judicial system gone starkers.

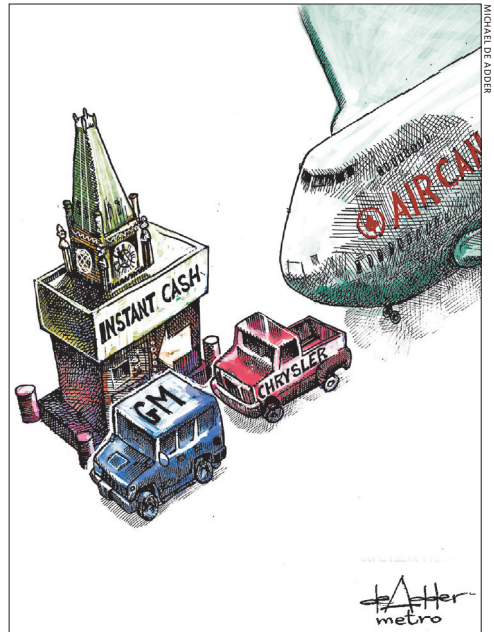
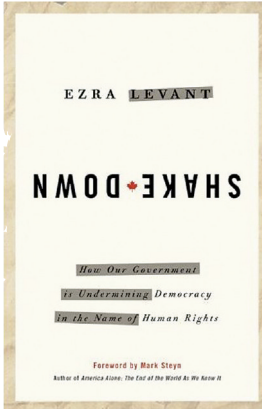
I think Levant is enjoying his 15 minutes of positive press because Canadians are waking up to the fact that their human

rights watchdogs are off the leash, and are thankful that someone has the guts to stand up for freedom of speech, our most important right, the one most in danger of being trampled under the boot of government good intentions.

One hundred people died in the savage madness that erupted over the Danish cartoons poking fun at the prophet Muhammad. I want to continue to live in a country where I can argue with Islam and frankly with all religions promising eternal bliss in return for lock-step compliance here on Earth, and not fear the wrath of holy men and bureaucrats.

Thanks to unlikely heroes such as Ezra Levant and Mark Steyn, I am still free to speak and write the truth as I see it. But it's a near thing, and Thomas Jefferson's words still ring true: "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



Worth mentioning

Gitmo 'relaxing': Miss Universe

CUBA A "relaxing, calm, beautiful place" may not be everyone's description of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where the United States holds about 240 prisoners in a detention centre that has drawn condemnation from around the world.

But this was the opinion of reigning Miss Universe Dayana Mendoza of Venezuela, who visited the U.S. naval facility in eastern Cuba this month on a trip organized by the United Service Organizations (USO) which supports U.S. troops.

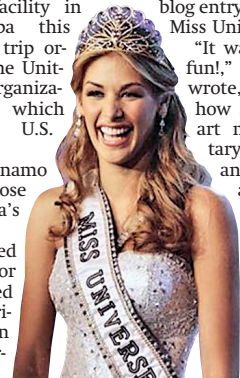
The Guantanamo Bay base, whose presence Cuba's government has contested as illegal for years, is used by U.S. authorities as a prison camp for foreign terrorism suspects.

Critics have condemned it as a symbol of abuses in Washington's war on terrorism launched after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Caracas-born Mendoza, 22, who visited the facility March 20 to 25 along with Miss USA Crystle Stewart, 27, enthused about her Guantanamo trip as an "incredible experience" in a blog entry posted on the Miss Universe website.

"It was a looot of fun!" Mendoza wrote, describing how she and Stewart met U.S. military personnel and took rides around the camp, which is encircled by a barbed-wire fenced, minefields and watchtowers.

REUTERS



Word on the street: Are you concerned that the Conservative government is planning to scrap the gun registry?

Dennis Bourgeois
age 45, Calgary

A: I don't believe it would make a difference in Canada whether we have it or not.

Barbara Bittman
Calgary

A: I think even though some people don't think it has control, it must have some effect and I think we need it.

Andrew Breckenridge
age 34, Edmonton

A: I think they should take a look at it. Restructure the program, but not scrap it wholeheartedly.

Holly Breckenridge
age 42, Edmonton

A: No, I want them to get rid of it. It's a waste of money.

Tim Chukwu
age 45, Toronto

A: I don't like guns. If you have them, you're going to use them ... so no, I don't want to get rid of it.

Hillary Ferguson
age 20, Halifax

A: I wouldn't want people to not register their guns because it will make it a lot easier for criminals to get guns.



Metro Online Poll Results

70% SAID
HELP

Would a hike in minimum wage help or hurt the economy?

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

30% SAID
HURT

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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number - street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Dozens of French workers detain Caterpillar executives

Workers facing the sack at a factory in France run by U.S. company Caterpillar detained four managers yesterday and demand further talks on announced layoffs. A union official said 733 workers were set to go out of a total of 2,700 staff. **REUTERS**

7

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Credit card losses up: Banks

Escalating job losses and personal bankruptcies are exacting a deepening toll on the credit card businesses of major banks.

Already grappling with higher losses, the banks are moving swiftly to cut their risks by stepping up collections and cutting the credit limits of high-risk clients, an industry conference in Montreal was told.

Delinquency by cities

- Cities that experienced the greatest increases in consumer delinquency include Montreal, Calgary, Quebec City and Hamilton.
- Below-average increases were recorded in Toronto, Ottawa, Halifax and Vancouver.

But even as banks signal the era of easy credit is over, a new report suggests the financial hangover from that heyday could persist for some time to

come. Equifax Canada released data suggesting that hard-hit Canadians are failing to pay their bills on time at "an increasing rate" and

that credit card debt was largely to blame.

The credit bureau said the average national consumer delinquency rate increased by 7.3 per cent over the period from February 2008 to February 2009. Equifax defines delinquent bills as those that are at least 90 days overdue.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

AUTO BUYERS General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co. announced a new series of incentives covering payments if customers lose their jobs, joining rivals in offering heavy discounts to attract consumers sidelined by the recession.

TOURISM Italy launched a \$10 million euro international advertising campaign to lure back tourists as the economic crisis hammers one of its biggest industries. **REUTERS**

GM chief says labour costs OK

AUTOS General Motors' new chief says worker concessions in Canada already make the teetering auto maker competitive despite government calls for more labour costs cuts to get public aid.

Fritz Henderson, who replaced Rick Wagoner as chief executive officer, said yesterday the company will consider the requests by federal and Ontario

Vote

- GM of Canada workers voted for concessions that will lower hourly labour costs including benefits by \$7.25 to \$63/hour.

politicians but added the concessions meet its competitive needs.

"What we need to is understand exactly what the Canadian government would like us to achieve

further beyond what's been achieved," he told reporters in Detroit.

Henderson said U.S. demands in exchange for more aid will mean GM will close more plants and offer additional employee buyouts.

He also raised the possibility of seeking bankruptcy court protection to deal with GM's problems.

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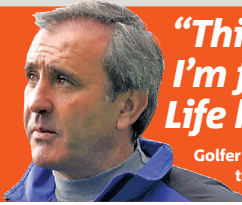
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A 4,800-calorie burger offered by the West Michigan Whitecaps minor-league baseball team this season has been labelled a "dietary disaster" by health professionals. The 1.8-kilogram, \$20 US burger features five beef patties, five slices of cheese, a cup of chili, and liberal doses of salsa and corn chips, all on a 20-centimetre bun. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports



"This is the most important shot of my life. I'm fighting to win my sixth major ... Life has given me a second chance."

Golfer Seve Ballesteros, left, to Spanish sports daily Marca on his fight against a cancerous brain tumour. Ballesteros just began his fourth round of chemotherapy. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

HOCKEY The Hockey Hall of Fame is revamping its rules in a move that signals it is ready to admit its first female player. Starting next year, the hall will consider male and female candidates separately. The new bylaw will allow a maximum of four men and two women to be inducted each year. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Florida 5 Ottawa 2
Montreal 4 Chicago 1
Vancouver 2 Minnesota 1 (OT)
Boston 3 Tampa Bay 1
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NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
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Denver 111 New York 104
Utah at Portland
New Orleans at Sacramento

For more sports coverage visit: metronews.ca



Canucks pass Flames

NHL RESULT

Canucks 2 Wild 1

Henrik Sedin scored the game-winner with one minute left in overtime to help the Vancouver Canucks jump into first place in the Northwest Division with a 2-1 win over the Minnesota Wild.

In the extra session, Daniel Sedin skated through the middle and from the right side sent a backhand pass between his legs to his brother, who cranked a slap shot into the left side of the net for the win.

Pavol Demitra scored the other goal while Roberto Luongo made 33 saves for his 30th win of the season for the Canucks, who have won three straight and eight of 10 overall.



Vancouver's Alexander Edler, Ryan Kesler, Pavol Demitra and Mattias Ohlund celebrate after Kesler scored last night.

Vancouver now has 93 points on the season and moved one point ahead of idle Calgary for first place in the Northwest. Both Vancouver and Calgary have six games to play, including a matchup in Vancouver on April 7.

Marian Gaborik had the

Up next

• The Flames visit the Dallas Stars tomorrow while the Canucks host the Anaheim Ducks.

lone Minnesota goal while Niklas Backstrom made 17 stops for the Wild, who have 81 points and sit two behind St. Louis for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference with five games to play.

The first 20 minutes went scoreless as Luongo made 12 saves in the frame and Backstrom countered with seven stops.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Leafs get their Hanson

HOCKEY Christian Hanson believes his stick will be what separates him from his father's shtick.

The 23-year-old son of Dave Hanson — one of the iconic Hanson Brothers of Slap Shot movie fame — will be introduced today as the newest Toronto Maple Leaf. The highly-sought free agent forward inked a two-year contract with the Maple Leafs yesterday, three days after the Notre Dame Fighting Irish were eliminated from the U.S. college hockey playoffs.

"It's pretty neat," said Hanson, reached in South Bend, Ind. "After Notre Dame got eliminated, Toronto was one of the teams that came and made an offer. It just seemed like the right fit for me." As a player, Hanson is about as far as possible from the celluloid goon his father portrayed, or the plugger his father was in those years he toiled away mostly in the minors, with 33 NHL games to his credit.

"He has got a keen hockey sense," said Dave Hanson. "He's got good speed, good hands, good shot. He's not going to be a role player, which was my game."

Raised largely in upstate New York, Christian Hanson



Christian Hanson, middle, with mom Sue and dad Dave.

was a rink rat like most other hockey kids. Dave Hanson put his son on skates at age two and coached him until 16.

But there was always one thing Christian had to deal with that the other kids didn't: The fame of his father and two ex-teammates. Dave Hanson, Jeff Carlson and brother Steve Carlson — journeymen players — gained fame as the bruising, brawny Hanson Brothers. Their knuckles wrapped in foil, their coke-bottle glasses taped, they punched their way to cult-hero status in the 1977 movie starring Paul Newman. Christian figures he's probably seen the movie about 40 or 50 times.

"Every time you watch it, you see something else that's funny." He can quote it, though he chose not to because "I don't think it can be printed."

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Metro Drive

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Wheels on fire

It's back to the classics in Fast & Furious

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

Movie and television cars are big business, and The Fast and The Furious franchise is no different, having spawned lookalikes galore after each of its three previous instalments.

Things are a little different in the fourth film which opens this Friday. The flashy, overwrought, hyper-tuned import cars that served as stars are there, but there's greater focus on more subtly modified American muscle cars and pickup trucks. Even the flick's name has been pared back to a simple Fast & Furious, doing away with the excess numbers and definitive articles.

But that's not to say that the vehicles

are less impressive than before.

Fans of the series will still have the Nissan Skyline R34, and a brand-new Subaru WRX STI, driven by star Paul Walker's character, but majority of the action is devoted to older lovelies like the 1970 Dodge Challenger and two versions of the 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle that Vin Diesel drove in the original movie.

"Reading the script, it was obvious this was going to be bigger than Tokyo Drift," said Dennis McCarthy, car co-ordinator for the third and the current Fast & Furious films, in an interview with online car magazine Edmunds Inside Line.

"And a lot more of them

Who drives what

- STAR: Paul Walker
CHARACTER: Brian O'Conner
CARS: Nissan Skyline R34; Subaru WRX STI
- STAR: Vin Diesel
CHARACTER: Dominic Toretto
CARS: 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle, 1987 Grand Buick National

were going to be 'specialty cars' that we'd have to build ourselves."

One new favourite includes the 1987 Buick Grand National, which Diesel uses during a heist scene. In fact, one of the seven replicas built for the film has its body mounted backwards on the frame so that it could be driven 'in reverse' at high speeds.

Among other eye-catchers are the Chevrolet

trucks built for the heist scene, especially a copper-coloured 1967 version.

In fact, that's how most of the movie cars look and feel: subtle, purposeful, and bereft of much decoration. Flat paints are in, big wings and spangly paint jobs are almost definitely out.

Most of the inspiration for these new rides come from some pretty famous vehicles that make "guest appearances" in the movie. The "Big Red" 1969 Chevrolet Camaro that started the "Pro Touring" style in the late '80s; the 1,500-horsepower "F-Bomb" 1973 Chevrolet Camaro project car from Hot Rod magazine; and the 1978 Year One "Bandit" Trans Am, which evokes Burt Reynolds' black-and-gold Pontiac from the Smokey and the Bandit movies, are all given plenty of screen time.

And what about the risk of damaging such rare beauties?

Well, for "star" vehicles, up to six or seven replicas were built of each, and most were destroyed in filming. Meaning some fairly rare vehi-

Mazda's H factor

Mazda Motor Corporation has started commercial leasing of the Mazda Premacy Hydrogen RE Hybrid in Japan, becoming the world's first auto manufacturer to begin commercial leasing of a hydrogen hybrid vehicle, Canadian Driver reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Nissan Skyline R34

what's assumed to be "under the hood."

Most of the 'understudies' were created with much more basic engines and transmissions, meaning they were much less valuable.

FOR MORE ON CARS AND FILMS, TURN TO PG. 12



1970 Chevrolet Chevelle



Vin Diesel returns to the franchise in Fast & Furious and can be seen driving many classic cars in the film.

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Aura top-notch contender

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada



With the days of super-cheap gas long behind us, the four-cylinder engine is rapidly becoming "king of the road." Many of them are now as quiet and powerful as V6 engines used to be, and they're showing up in more models than ever.

Saturn has responded with the midsize Aura sedan. The 2.4-litre four-cylinder previously found only in the base XE model is now also available in the upper-line XR trim. GM further streamlines the model by dropping one of the two V6 engines offered for 2008; for 2009, there's only a 3.6-litre V6, solely in XR trim. The 2.4-litre also shows up in the Aura Hybrid, a "mild" version that shuts off at idle, but can't run on its battery alone.

Mated exclusively to a six-speed automatic — sister car Chevrolet Malibu uses a four-speed in its base trim — the 2.4-litre



Aura gets better overall fuel economy than any of its non-hybrid, auto-equipped midsize sedan competitors. Official figures are 9.4 L/100 km in the city and 5.9 on the highway; in combined cold-weather driving, I averaged 8.9 L/100 km.

Pricing starts at \$23,728 for the XE, while the XR-4 starts at \$26,395. Features

on the upper line include auto-dimming mirrors, 17-inch alloy wheels, heated cloth seats (optioned to leather on my car, and which took forever to warm up on my tester) with power adjustment, remote start, Bluetooth and satellite radio. It's another \$4,111 to the V6 model, which also adds 18-inch wheels, leather upholstery

and automatic climate control. Electronic stability control, six airbags and OnStar are standard on all models.

Drive-wise, I've always been partial to Aura/Malibu. It isn't that anything really stands out, but it's a cohesive package that does what it's meant to do, and does it very well. The 169-horsepower four has enough guts



The Saturn Aura, left, is aimed to please commuters, with its light driving feel and a well-designed, functional interior, above.

to get through traffic; the interior is roomy; the seats are supportive; the suspension takes care of nasty road imperfections; and fit-and-finish stands up easily to its rivals.

The steering's a bit livelier than on sister Malibu, but it's still no sports sedan. Its light feel will displease driving enthusiasts, but the reality is that this car is aimed at commuters, and that's what most want when they're snaking through city streets en route to the office. It's responsive, though, with no wallowing or rolling

2009 Saturn Aura

Type: Midsize sedan
Price: \$23,728-\$26,395
Engine: 2.4L four-cylinder
HP: 169

Highlights

- Roomy interior
- Nice to drive
- Good fuel economy

around corners, and it's straight and confident on the highway, with no need for constant correction.

It's a crowded market, but GM has delivered a top-notch contender, sweetening it by mixing upper-line trim with a smaller engine.

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

Read this week's column at metronews.ca/autopilot

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Travel spending

Travellers are willing to pay extra for good service and the thrill of an exotic destination, according to a global poll. Almost 60 per cent of the 5,500 respondents said experiencing another culture was the top item they would spend more on during a vacation. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

11

Travel



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Aix puts the glamour in Provence

French town is a blend of sophistication and regional colour

ROMINA Mc GUINNESS
Metro World News

The name Provence might trigger visions of lavender fields, gentle games of pétanque and café terraces where men drink aniseed liquor and play cards. But the town of Aix, nestled in a valley some 30 kilometres from the city of Marseilles, not only offers picturesque landscapes; it also oozes glamour.

Bursting with culture, history, wonderful markets, fabulous boutiques and glamorous people — women religiously wear six-inch heels, even when grocery shopping — Aix ticks every box when it comes to reasons for visiting the South of France.

No wonder the town attracted cultural stars including author Emile Zola and painter Paul Cézanne, and more recently, iconic French big-screen stars Alain Delon and Brigitte Bardot.

No visit to Aix is complete without an up-and-down tour of the Cours Mirabeau, a long sidewalk studded with brasseries, markets, shops and cafés — which also serves as a compass while exploring on foot.

Stop at No. 12, home to



Left, one of the many fountains in Aix-en-Provence. Right, an entire day should be spent exploring the town's street markets.



the town's oldest patisserie, Béchard, to indulge in some sweet therapy. Local diamond-shaped marzipans known as Calissons d'Aix are a speciality, but the freshly-baked iced-sugar brioche or glazed fruits will also please your palate.

Getting there

- Marseille-Provence airport is a 20-kilometre drive from the centre of Aix. The TGV Méditerranée rail line takes you from Paris to Aix-en-Provence in three hours.
- For more, visit aixen-provence-tourism.com

get a snapshot of true Aix life. From young university students sipping bitter black coffee to the true bourgeois Aixois grazing on

their three-course lunches, this is the place to see and be seen.

Stroll down to the end of the Cours to Place de la Rotonde, where the fountain-turned-roundabout marks the original entrance into the town. The fountain is made up of three mesmerizing mermaids, each one representing a different aspect of the town — Justice, Commerce and Agriculture, and Fine Arts.

An entire day should be dedicated to exploring the town's street markets. Stock up on local products including honey, lavender and fresh fruit on Place de La Madeleine where the local produce market stalls open daily from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Then follow the bursts of colours and smells over to

the Palais de Justice, where the flower market merges with the vintage clothes and jewelry stalls situated across the street. Sunflowers in one hand and basket in the other, browse through the heaps of jewels and hand-woven silk pashminas.

Last but not least, unwind after your exhausting trek of all the markets, bars and restaurants by treating yourself to a visit to Aix's new Spa, Thermes Sextius (thermes-sextius.com), built above a Roman thermae dating back to 122 BC. Spring water is sourced from the Sainte Victoire Mountain and is naturally 36 C and enriched in calcium and magnesium. Choose between a Zen or hydrotherapy massage, depending on your mood.

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It's a girl — and she shares her birthday with her mom. How I Met Your Mother star Alyson Hannigan and her husband, actor Alexis Denisof, welcomed a daughter on March 24 in Los Angeles, which also happens to be Hannigan's birthday. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONWS.CA

History of the chase

Exploring Canadian connection between cars and film

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

With *Fast & Furious* about to speed into theatres this Friday, the latest installment of the successful hotrod film franchise is sure to be raising testosterone levels across

North America.

But did you know the combination of cars and cinema arguably has a connection to Canada's first female filmmaker?

While University of Toronto cinema studies professor Bart Testa would surely stop short of directly linking early pioneer Nell

Movie feature

Shipman to *Fast & Furious*, he does point out the early 20th century artist did play a role.

"(Shipman) made a film in which she spent the entire film in an automobile rescuing her boyfriend and so the film was a kind of car chase movie," says Testa, adding that Shipman may have another association to *Fast & Furious*. "I understand she actually wrecked three cars making the film."

There are certainly other early examples that are more obvious influences to the modern use of cars in cinema, the original *Fast* and the *Furious* (1955) being the most indisputable. But one cannot overlook

the importance of such gems as *Bullitt*, the original *Gone in 60 Seconds* and even 1971's *Vanishing Point*.

"When you get to (2001's) *The Fast and the Furious* ... they're pretty consciously going back to that," says Testa. "Now they've souped it up because they have special effects and the technology of the automobile has expanded — you can do a lot more with cars."

Although producers of *Fast & Furious* may be "souping" up for a big box-office take, the automobile industry has been tightening its means in a struggling economy.

With automakers around the globe laying off employees and mothballing their struggling product, it



Gossip dancer

Gossip Girl star Chace Crawford reportedly tested over the weekend for the planned *Footloose* remake, according to E! News. Zac Efron recently backed out of the role. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Vin Diesel stars in *Fast & Furious*, the fourth film in the series, which opens in theatres this Friday.

ponders one to consider if the car's golden days in the cinema aren't nearing an end as well.

"I think the car films that we're seeing now, the cars have already moved into the realm of fantasy-after-its-death," says Testa. "One of the things that *Fast* and the *Furious* is about is that, despite the thuggish manner of Vin Diesel and

his buddies in these films, there's some suggestion that they're conceptual artists — that the car is already into the realm of art and less the realm of necessity, practicality and the rest of that."

For a look at the cars used in the fourth installment of the movie franchise, turn to the Metro Drive section on page 9.

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	- - 4 OMNI	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News	Scrub	Better Off Ted	Lost (HDTV) (N)	Life on Mars	The Hour	News Hour
	371 5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Being Erica (N) (DVS)	CBC News: The National	Bones (HDTV) (N)	Nip/Tuck	Your City
	245 306 6 CBRT	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Leonard Cohen-London	(8:02) Life on Mars	To Be Announced	Nip/Tuck	Le Téléjournal et Les Nou	Local Programming	CSI: NY
	244 338 7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	Murdoch Mysteries	Le Match des étoiles (N) (SC)	Tous Pour Un (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Local Programming	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Charlton Hest	Amazing
	246 - 8 CKAL	Law & Order: SVU	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Match des étoiles (N) (SC)	Tous Pour Un (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Local Programming	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	CSI: NY	Law & Order
	119 705 9 CBXF	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Match des étoiles (N) (SC)	Le Match des étoiles (N) (SC)	Tous Pour Un (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Local Programming	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	CSI: NY	News (N)
	- - 10 SHAW	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors Women. (N)	Jerusalem: Center of the World (HDTV) (N)	I Get That a Lot (N)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	CSI: NY	Charlton Hest	Amazing
	372 12 KREM	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	PBS Previews	Amazing Moments	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	CBC News: The National	Life "Initiative 38" (N)	American Idol	News (N)
news	500 500 29 CNIN	CBC News: The National	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	CBC News: The National	Life "Initiative 38" (N)	American Idol	News (N)
	370 16 KHQ	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	502 390 15 CBC	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	373 22 KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	297 652 37 WPIX	90210 "Life's a Drag"	Larry King Live (N)	Lou Dobbs Tonight	Nancy Grace	Showbiz Tonight	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	500 500 29 CNIN	Lou Dobbs Tonight	Nancy Grace	Showbiz Tonight	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	400 400 21 TSN	NHL Hockey	SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)	The Ultimate Fighter	Phoenix Suns. (Live)	Final Score	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	408 418 27 net	(6) UFC Fight Night	Sportsnet Connected	The Ultimate Fighter	Phoenix Suns. (Live)	Final Score	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	400 400 30 SCORE	Score Tonight	NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Phoenix Suns. (Live)	The Ultimate Fighter	Phoenix Suns. (Live)	Final Score	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
	411 457 44 OLN	Mantracker	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivor	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Fraser	Cooper 360
family	417 406 48 SPEED	Pinks (HDTV)	Drag Race	Drag Race	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Amer. Thunder	Pinks Outtakes	Pinks (HDTV)
	552 543 20 YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Latest Buzz	Karaoke Star Junior	Falcon Beach	Robot Chicken
	557 541 39 FAM	Zoe 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School
	555 545 67 TCM	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futura	American Dad	Robot Chicken
	575 583 11 CMT	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Comfy Couch	Big & Small (N)	Max & Ruby	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	553 546 17 TREE	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Running Heels	The Dish	EarthWatch Two	Grocery Bag	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Stuck (N)
	- - 18 CHTV	The Insider (N)	E! News	Running Heels	The Dish	EarthWatch Two	Grocery Bag	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Stuck (N)
	505 398 19 TWIN	(5) EarthWatch One	EarthWatch One	EarthWatch One	EarthWatch One	EarthWatch Two	Grocery Bag	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Stuck (N)
	602 568 23 W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery Bag	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Stuck (N)
	521 560 24 TLC	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery Bag	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Stuck (N)
cable variety	603 561 25 FOOD	Iron Chef America	Ultimate Recipe Showdown	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators	Exterminators
	615 520 26 A&E	Dog the Bounty Hunter	The Outer Limits	Kimora: Fab	Kardashians	Personal Best *** (1982, Drama)	Mariel Hemingway	Star 80 (1983)	Dirty Jobs	Zelig
	617 522 32 SHOW	Wife Swap	The Outer Limits	Kimora: Fab	Kardashians	Personal Best *** (1982, Drama)	Mariel Hemingway	Star 80 (1983)	Dirty Jobs	Zelig
	601 562 33 SLICE	End of Leash	End of Leash	Kimora: Fab	Kardashians	Personal Best *** (1982, Drama)	Mariel Hemingway	Star 80 (1983)	Dirty Jobs	Zelig
	- 633 34 ENC2	The Hurricane	(7-25) The Kid *** (1997, Drama)	Mayday	Death at-Opera	Broadway	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy
	520 505 35 DISC	Deadliest Catch	Wingfield	Wingfield	Death at-Opera	Broadway	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy
	620 523 36 BRAVO	Wingfield	Wingfield	Death at-Opera	Broadway	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy
	294 650 40 WPCW	(6) Phantoms (1998, Horror)	Steve Harvey	Seinfeld	Air Force	Just for Laughs	Two Weeks With Love *** (1950, Musical)	Jane Powell	The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)	CSI: NY (HDTV)
	626 547 41 CCM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Force	Just for Laughs	Two Weeks With Love *** (1950, Musical)	Jane Powell	The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)	CSI: NY (HDTV)	Disorderly
	- 539 42 TCM	(6) Royal Wedding (1951)	The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV)	NCIS "Doppelganger"	Stormworld (N)	Grand Star	A Bridge Too Far *** (1977, War)	Dirk Bogarde, James Cagney	Family Guy	Big City Broker

critics' corner

G-Spot

Typcast as a sex bomb after appearing in "Red Shoe Diaries," actress Brigitte Bako has fun with that development — and others in her life — in this comedy series, a sort of "Sex and the City" meets "Seinfeld." In season three, starting tonight, her character, Gigi, deals with a kinky convention, the production of a pilot based on her life and, of course, lots of guy issues. 10 PM on SHOW



Criminal Minds

Well, this is a bit of a conundrum. This week Rossi (Joe Mantegna) and the team must try to solve a case in reverse when a self-confessed serial killer turns himself in, sending them on a massive manhunt to find his latest victims before it is too late. That's right, the murderer's victims are still alive. Jason Alexander ("Seinfeld"), Ali Landry ("Eve") and Nicholas Brendon ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer") guest star. 9 PM on CFCN



Green Day

American Idiot to hit the stage

THEATRE American Idiot, the hit 2004 concept album by rock trio Green Day, is taking on a new life as a theater production.

Tony Award-winning director Michael Mayer is adapting the album — which sold 12 million copies worldwide and won Grammy Awards for Best Rock Album and Record of the Year — for the Berkeley Repertory Theatre in California. The production will run Sept. 4 through Oct. 11, with tickets now on sale at berkeleyrep.org.

Mayer and Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong collaborated on the script, which follows the working-class subjects of the album's songs — including Jesus of Suburbia, St. Jimmy and a female protagonist called Whatsername — as they "express their individuality in a mass-media culture."

REUTERS

Pseudo-celebrities that sell stuff

Coming to a store near you: Kendra Wilkinson's new line of stripper poles. "I'm coming out with my own stripper pole. Stripper pole and stripper pole workout," The Girls Next Door star said. USMAGAZINE.COM

entertainment **13**

Designer 'beaten down'

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada



Twice was not as nice for designer Genevieve Graham as she got eliminated for a second time on last night's episode of Project Runway Canada.

The confident and frank Vancouver designer had previously been eliminated but got a second chance when the show brought her and Hamilton designer Jason Meyers back last week.

This time, designers had to create a tailored business suit for a female executive, with a mid-episode twist: Two hours from the runway show, designers were given another afternoon to create a set of lingerie to be worn under the suit.

Most designers got lauded for their lingerie designs but had varying levels of success with their business suits.

Graham struggled with the constraints of business attire and guest judge David Dixon called her chocolate-brown power suit "frumpy," getting her sent home again.



Genevieve Graham got booted for the second time last night from Project Runway Canada.

Graham is happy she got a chance to show more of her unique design style on the show and hopes people will appreciate her against-the-grain fashion creations.

"I got another chance to show my work. I had a very different look from everyone else, a little less on the commercial side. I think being the black sheep will work out for the better," she said.

Graham weathered her first elimination with a shrug and her trademark confidence. This time

around the usually stoic designer fought back tears and looked more affected. She says being so close to the prize, especially for a second time, made getting cut that much tougher.

"Leaving and coming back, that was a bit more emotional for me. I was getting closer to the end and I was feeling a little beaten down," Graham said.

Despite getting heaved a second time from the competition, Graham says the experience hasn't shattered her confidence at all.

"I still think I was one of the strongest designers on the show. Every piece I do is individual and one-of-a-kind and I am extremely confident in my work," she said.

Graham admits her choice of thick fabric in the business suit challenge, which made the suit seem heavy and unwieldy, wasn't ideal.

"A different fabric would have been better for sure," she said.

The judges frequently harped on Graham for having similar draped designs in all her clothing but the 31-year-old designer thinks they pigeonholed her too quickly and failed to appreciate the signature look she was going for with all her designs.

"I felt that when I did try to break out a little more (the judges) didn't acknowledge it. I don't think they really understood my brand," Graham said.

When to watch

- Project Runway Canada airs Tuesday nights on Global.

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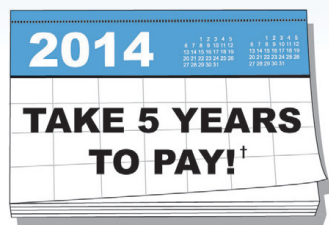
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Even after Hollywood success and “ballooning” families, Ben Affleck says his friendship with Matt Damon has not only gotten stronger, with shared vacations, but they’re planning another movie together, people.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Damon, Affleck planning new movie

Celebrity Buzz

Britney's worried message

LEGAL Britney Spears has consulted a lawyer to try and get her conservatorship lifted, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Womanizer singer — whose father Jamie and lawyer Andrew Wallet were made co-conservators of her personal and professional affairs following her breakdown last year — reportedly left a worried voicemail for an attorney on Jan. 29.

According to JFXOnline, Britney revealed she was concerned Jamie may stop her seeing her sons Sean Preston, three, and Jayden James, two.

In the message,

Britney says: “Hi my name’s Britney Spears. I called you earlier. I’m calling again because I just wanted to

make sure that during the process of the eliminating the conservatorship that my father has threatened me several times, that you know, he’ll take my children away.

“I just want to be guaranteed that everything will be fine with the process and that you guys are taking care of everything, that things will stay the same as far as my custodial time. That’s it, bye.”

It has been claimed the person leaving the message is definitely Spears, with a source telling America’s OK! magazine: “It’s the real deal. This is what convinced Jamie to go back to court to have the restraining orders reinstated against Sam Lutfi and Adnan Ghalib.”

METRO NEWS SERVICES



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Is Rihanna cooperating?

PEOPLE The Los Angeles County District Attorney denies that Rihanna is no longer cooperating in the Chris Brown case, us-magazine.com reports.

“We deal with her attorney who says she is a cooperating victim,” L.A. County D.A. spokesperson Sandi Gibbons tells the website.

According to FoxNews.com, the Umbrella singer “wants the whole thing” to go away and isn’t helping the D.A. prepare his case against Brown for allegedly assaulting her Feb. 8 — hours before both were scheduled

to attend the Grammys.

Adds her lawyer, Donald Etra: “She will do everything that the law requires her to do ... nothing has changed.”

However, even without Rihanna’s cooperation, the case will still go forward on the basis of her detailed statement to police hours after the attack and the graphic photos.

Brown — who, like Rihanna, did not attend this weekend’s Kids’ Choice Awards — is due in court to be arraigned on two felonies April 6.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Short models not a popular choice

FASHION Tyra Banks idea to only accept short models, under five-foot seven, for the next season of America’s Next Top Model has not gone down well with other fashion insiders, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Top agent Ellis, who discovered Erin O’Conner, told Vogue that it seemed like a “stupid, stupid idea.”

She said: “I really have no preconceived notions when I go out scouting ... But, height-wise, I would not be looking for anyone under 5’ 9” — 5’ 10”. That’s the absolute minimum.”

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Washington moving

FINANCES Former Grey’s Anatomy star Isaiah Washington is moving out of the property that has caused him some recent financial troubles, according to RadarOnline.com.

He and his wife faced eviction after falling \$100,000 US behind on rent, according to documents filed in Santa Monica, Calif., on Tuesday. They were told they needed to move out unless they paid the overdue amount.

“He’s moving out today,” a source told RadarOnline.com.

On Monday, two housekeepers were spotted packing a large box, and photographs were taken off of the walls. Washing-

ton and his wife were seen leaving the residence, though Washington returned 40 minutes later before leaving again.

The papers — filed by his landlord — claim that Washington and his wife haven’t been paying their \$20,000 monthly payments on their home in the Venice area of L.A. The complaint, filed by Sandalwood Properties, says Washington has not paid since November.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Burton's Alice will be shot in 3-D

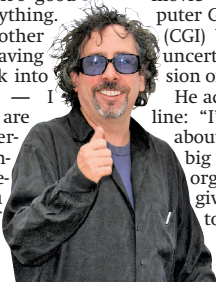
FILM Alice in Wonderland will feature scenes in 3-D — because it no longer gives the director a headache, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Filmmaker Tim Burton says he is embracing the technology because he thinks it perfectly suits the surreal world the film — which stars Anne Hathaway and Johnny Depp — is set in.

He said: “I like the 3-D aspect of it, I think it fits

the material very well, and it doesn’t give me a headache like it used to.

“I think it’s good for anything. There are other uses than having spears stuck into your face — I think there are more visceral, emotional uses, especially if you use lots of textures.”



METRO NEWS SERVICES

The Sweeney Todd director also admits he is unsure how much of the movie will feature Computer Generation Imagery (CGI) because he is still uncertain of his final vision of the film.

He added to Empire Online: “I’m not quite sure about CGI yet — doing a big budget movie is an organic process and gives the opportunity to experiment.”

Cyrus says yes to TV, no to film sequel

CAREER Big-screen Hannah Montana, no. Small-screen Hannah Montana, yes. So sayeth Miley Cyrus, whose Hannah Montana: The Movie hits cineplexes April 10, people.com reports.

And while she’s already torpedoed reports that she wants off the Montana treadmill, the pop sensation is adding further fuel to her insistence that her Disney Channel show keep up its pace — even though Disney itself reportedly is mulling over whether it should continue for a fourth season. Cyrus has already signed for a third.

For her part, Cyrus, 16, sounds optimistic about

Hannah’s future. “We got really lucky with having the material to make one movie,” she told the Associated Press on Monday. Given how the new movie, which Cyrus calls “very clever,” exposes Hannah Montana’s identity, the chances for a sequel a practically nil. That’s not to say, though, that the TV series can’t go marching on.

“I don’t know if I would do another film,” says its star, “but I would love to do another (TV) season. That would be what we would all agree on.”

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Berry open to more kids

FAMILY Halle Berry is open to having more kids — but don’t expect her to be like octuplets’ mom Nadya Suleman, people.com.

Berry confirms to Ellen DeGeneres on her show that she wants another child, but says she’s not up for double digits. “I hope I don’t have like 14 more,” quips Berry, who is mom to one-year-old Nahla Ariela.

Still, Berry isn’t ruling out that a brother or sister could be in the future for her daughter with model Gabriel Aubry. “My mind says yes,” she tells DeGeneres,

“but the rest isn’t up to me so we’ll see.”

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Willis' ski lodge burned down

PEOPLE Bruce Willis may have to cut his honeymoon short to deal with some devastating property loss. The actor’s ski lodge in Fairfield, Idaho, burned to the ground recently, according to the Associated Press.

The main lodge building as well as an adjacent rental shop were burned to the ground in the fire, which ignited a week after the Soldier Mountain Ski Resort, co-owned by Willis, closed for the season. Willis had reportedly been looking into expanding the resort.

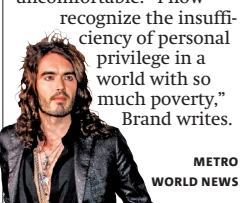
METRO WORLD NEWS



Donate his fortune?

CHARITY Russell Brand is looking to donate his fortune to charity, according to his personal website.

The actor and comedian, who has had a string of successful film, book and TV projects in the U.K., writes that the financial success he’s garnered makes him uncomfortable. “I now recognize the insufficiency of personal privilege in a world with so much poverty,” Brand writes.



METRO WORLD NEWS

Exes to co-star in film

RELATIONSHIP Friendly exes Drew Barrymore and Justin Long — who after a year as a couple split in July but were seen slow-dancing together in January — will soon have another chance to rekindle old flames when they shoot what Variety calls an “observational comedy,” titled Going the Distance, people.com reports.

They’ll play a couple threatened by the obsta-

cles posed by their long-distance relationship, reports the trade paper. Barrymore, 34, and Long, 30, previously costarred together in this year’s ensemble comedy He’s Just Not Into You.

That Into You, **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Today
Mostly cloudy
-1°C / -8°C

Thursday
Mostly cloudy
0°C / -8°C

Friday
Mostly cloudy
1°C / -7°C

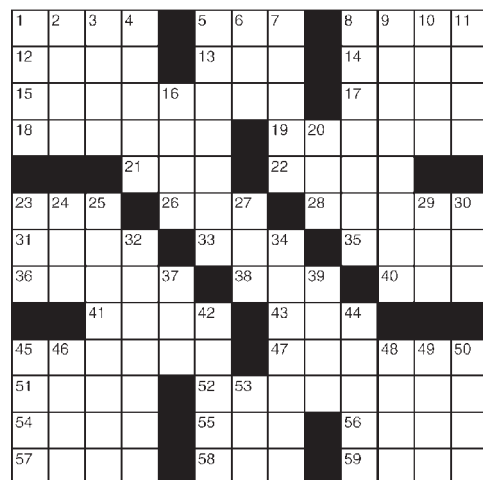


Andrew Schultz, Weather Specialist – Breakfast Television

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WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.

Take Five



Crossword across

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Band in Boston? | ton | 45 Record sleeve |
| 5 Derek and Did-dley | 23 Wager | 47 "20 Questions" category |
| 8 Always | 26 Church seat | 51 Seed coat |
| 12 Couple in a gossip column | 28 Alkali neutralizers | 52 Nerve |
| 13 Trench | 31 Lone Star State sch. | 54 Teensy amount |
| 14 Start over | 33 Siesta | 55 Part of TGIF |
| 15 Horrible state | 35 On | 56 Smell |
| 17 Mined-over matter | 36 Craze | 57 Coves |
| 18 Battled | 38 Wander about | 58 \$5 bill |
| 19 Lengthy list | 40 Verily | 59 Fourth dimension |
| 21 Perch | 41 Gospels followup | |
| 22 Idle or Clap- | 43 Baby's seat, maybe | |

Crossword down

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Chanteuse Edith | 20 Playwright Levin | 44 Embroidery loop |
| 2 "Beetle Bailey" dog | 23 Vagrant | 45 Doorframe part |
| 3 Andean land | 24 Greek vowel | 46 Met melody |
| 4 Clean Air Act targets | 25 Stick-to-itiveness | 48 Certain skirt |
| 5 "Peter Grimes" composer | 27 Humorist | 49 Fermi's concern |
| 6 Chic no more | 29 Buck's mate | 50 Muse's strings |
| 7 Fashion | 30 Hot tub | 53 Spoonbender Geller |
| 8 Blue material? | 32 Big Mac ingredients | |
| 9 Accuracy | 34 Champion for a cause | |
| 10 Paradise | 37 Noshed | |
| 11 Optimistic | 39 Carvey or Delany | |
| 16 Chocolate fragment | 42 Employees | |

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

1	9	5	6	2	3	7	8	4
7	6	2	4	8	5	1	9	3
3	8	4	1	7	9	2	6	5
5	3	1	7	4	6	8	2	9
9	2	6	5	3	8	4	7	1
4	7	8	2	9	1	5	3	6
2	5	3	8	6	4	9	1	7
8	4	9	3	1	7	6	5	2
6	1	7	9	5	2	3	4	8

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

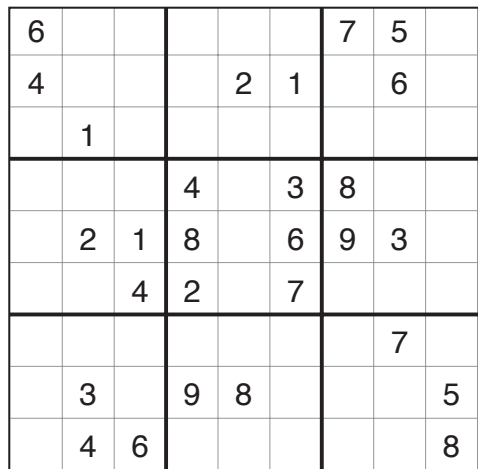
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min	Genius	17-21 min	Smart
13-17 min	Scholar	21-25 min	Not bad
		25+ min	Keep practising

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Metro Recipe of the Day



Citrus-Grilled California Chicken with Melon Sauce

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- Salt to taste
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) black pepper
- 1 jalapeno pepper
- 6 tbsp (90 ml) fresh lime juice, divided
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 tsp (10 ml) light soy sauce

SALSA:

- 1 large cucumber
- 1 small cantaloupe, cut into 1-in. (2.5-cm) cubes
- 1/2 basket of cherry tomatoes, halved
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) thinly sliced fresh basil
- 6 cups (1.5 l) mesclun leaves, for serving

METHOD:

- Preheat grill or broiler to medium. Sprinkle chicken on both sides with salt and black pepper. Devein and seed jalapeno pepper, then mince. In pie plate, mix 2 tbsp (25 ml) lime juice, garlic, soy sauce and 1 tsp (5 ml) jalapeno. Add chicken and turn to coat. Marinate

at room temperature while preparing salsa.

- Halve cucumber lengthwise and remove seeds. Place cucumber cut-side down on board and thinly slice. In medium bowl, toss cucumber, cantaloupe, tomatoes, basil and remaining jalapeno and lime juice. Set aside.
- Discard marinade and lightly coat chicken with non-stick cooking spray. Grill or broil chicken until juices run clear, 5 minutes per side, turning once.
- Transfer chicken to cutting board and cut diagonally into strips 1/2 in. (1 cm) wide. Toss with cucumber mixture. Divide mesclun among 4 plates and spoon chicken and melon mixture over.

SERVES 4

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Your good humour lightens the day for others. Using an inadequate service will be pointless. You can teach an old dog new tricks.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Take extra care with traffic conditions. A story may not be properly told. Avoid jumping to conclusions with a buddy.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Be diligent about looking into details. Refuse to argue with a whimsical man. A perplexing friend has a vision of the future.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
A gracious deed will win over an elder. Someone is hiding important facts. A violent traveller causes a ruckus.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
There'll be seesaw activity in your relationships. An outsider has the goods on your secret. Speak with tact, even when you're under duress.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Risk-taking is more important than usual. Cultivate a connection with a joyful person. A truce-maker will be well received.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Your domestic activity will go off the scale. A cherished venture increases its momentum. A grim situation is created by a wicked schemer.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
There's uncertainty about a change of alliances. Hide your dismay at the loss of a friendship. A sassy female should be ignored.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Your routine will change due to happy moments. Don't ridicule someone's emotions. A kind person will set new standards.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
An incoherent ally has abandonment issues. A potent daydream reveals the fulfillment of a wish. An older person makes you laugh.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
An irresponsible person takes over a boring task. An encounter with a foreigner will dazzle you. A meddler gets upset over certain preparations.

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